



NEWS RELEASE

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 27, 1994

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
MEMORIAL DAY MESSAGE
FOR MEN AND WOMEN OF THE ARMED FORCES

"Next week, May 27, we will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the D-Day invasion of Normandy, 50 years ago. It was a crucial turning point in the struggle to defeat the forces of global aggression, domination and subjugation. General Eisenhower aptly called it, 'The Great Crusade'."

"We will never forget the courage and sacrifice of those who fought and died at Normandy. Their memory lives on for what they achieved on that day."

"The fascist leaders who provoked World War II simply misunderstood the democratic of the world. They mistook the hallowed tradition of public debate and dissent for internal strife and inertia. They thought a love of liberty meant a lack of discipline. They confused a love of peace with a lack of will."

"In short, the enemies of peace and freedom thought that democracies would not or could not fight to deter or defeat tyranny and aggression. They were wrong 50 years ago. They were wrong during the Cold War. And they are wrong today."

"The legacy of those who stormed the beaches at Normandy lives on. It's alive in you, the men and women in uniform who stand ready to protect our security, our interests and our allies."

"On this Memorial Day, I join all Americans in paying tribute to all those who gave their lives defending our nation, and also to those who dedicate their lives today. You are upholding the democratic cause of peace and freedom; yours is truly a 'great crusade'."

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